

1969

No. 199

6th Year

A vicious circle.

"De-Americanization" of the  
War of Aggression Will Fare  
No Better Than "American-  
ization".

(Pages 4-5)

Information Weekly - E.O. 46 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi - Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

THE U.S. representative to the Paris Conference has suggested six shapes of tables for the Paris Conference. The tables are of different forms, but they all betray the U.S.-puppet aim: to give the meeting the implication of a 'two-sided' conference. The U.S. and the Saigon puppet administration keep refusing a quadripartite conference with four delegations, as rightly proposed by the DRVN, the NFL, and public opinion at large.

Everybody still remembers that in April, 1968, after U.S. President Johnson had decided the 'limited bombing' of North Viet Nam and declared his intention to proceed 'aggressively' to 'peace', the U.S. put forward nearly a score of sides, which were completely unacceptable, to try to delay the talks between

the DRVN and the U.S. Now, by proposing a set of differently shaped tables, including ones of incongruous forms, it only tries to deny the independent and equal status of the NFL delegation. By scheming talks on the South Viet Nam issue without giving full recognition to the NFL as the genuine representative, organizer and leader of the South Vietnamese people in their struggle against the aggressors and the traitors, it is actually holding up the conference and the peaceful settlement of the South Viet Nam conflict.

For all this, the U.S. government is shamelessly claiming that owing to its 'goodwill' the Paris talks have made 'progress'. On December 27, 1968, Mr. Johnson declared in Washington that there was every reason

## U.S. MAINLY TO BLAME FOR CONFAB DEADLOCK

(A commentary by Nhan Dan on Jan. 5, 1969)

to believe that 'progress' could be made at an early date at the peace negotiations in Paris. Certain people in the U.S. ruling circles have even alleged that it is because of the attitude of the Saigon administration and of the DRVN that the Paris Conference cannot get under way. All this is sheer nonsense and slander. It must be made clear again that the main responsibility for the delay of the Paris conference rests with the U.S.

Indeed, as early as October 31, 1968, the outgoing U.S. President announced that the Paris Conference on Viet Nam would open on November 6, 1968 with the participation of the DRVN, the NFL, the U.S., and the Saigon puppet administration. Immediately after that, following the outcry of the puppets in Saigon, the U.S. State Department on November 20 announced that the conference would comprise 'two sides' and intimated that the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique might 'play a leading role'. Ever since, during the discussions of procedural matters, the American representative to the Paris Conference has always shown the U.S. intention to tone up the image of the puppets of the U.S. in Saigon, while trying, one way or another, to belittle the role of the NFL. VOA Rostow as saying that the U.S. did not want the NFL to be on the same footing with the other delegations.

1967 statement was the raising of doubts for instance, on its value as an affirmation ('would an end to the bombing get the talks going?') or on its earnestness ('what should be the subjects of eventual talks?'). The DRVN Foreign Minister's words on Dec. 29, 1967 were intended to

for the 'liberation' of Hanoi (?). And Nguyen Van Thieu the traitor parroted on New Year's Day the same abusive words taught him by his American bosses. The U.S. is trying to make it seem as if it was the Saigon administration alone that was opposing negotiations whereas the U.S. was willing, and as if it was because of the unwillingness of the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique that the Paris conference could not begin, despite U.S. pressure. This amounts to saying 'the tail was the dog' as certain Americans put it in reference to the relations between the U.S. and its puppets.

It is common knowledge that the Saigon puppet administration has been created, fostered, aided and abetted by the U.S., whereas it is hated and spurned by the South Vietnamese people. Without U.S. troops and weapons, this administration cannot survive even for a single day. Now, the tone of the initiative, the attitude and the setbacks of the U.S. and its puppet administration would not have the check to behave so arrogantly. On his arrival in Paris, Nguyen Cao Ky the traitor clamoured

(Continued page 2)

## 1968, A YEAR OF VIET NAM PEOPLE'S PERSEVERING STRUGGLES ON DIPLOMATIC FRONT

THE year 1968 opened with the resounding echoes raised throughout the world by the Dec. 29, 1967 important statement of DRVN Foreign Minister Nguyen Dai Trinh:

"The position of the Vietnamese people is quite clear", he said. "That is the four points of the DRVN Government and the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. That is the basis for the settlement of the settlement of the Viet Nam question."

"The U.S. Government has been unceasingly claiming that it wants to talk with Hanoi but has received no response. If the U.S. Government truly wants to talk, it must, as has been made clear in our Jan. 28, 1967 statement, first of all stop unconditionally the bombing and all other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. After such an unconditional halt, the DRVN will enter into talks with the U.S. on relevant questions".

### WASHINGTON DRIVEN INTO A CORNER

SINCE early 1965, as the air war of destruction against North Viet Nam was started and American troops were sent en masse to South Viet Nam, the U.S. psywar machine was put in motion to proclaim from the loudspeakers that American rulers were deeply attached to peace. If their propaganda was to be believed, they seemed to be particularly interested in having talks with the DRVN. "Discussions without conditions" and "negotiations without condi-

tions," so ran their formula.

The language was crafty indeed, but it could not conceal some tricks used by Messrs Johnson, Ford and Co: What do the "discussions or negotiations without conditions" mean if not to talk with an interlocutor at whom a gun was pointed? To negotiate with Hanoi while bombs were raining on the DRVN, wasn't that a rather simple way for Washington to secure a position of strength right from the start?

On Jan. 28, 1967, Mr. Nguyen Dai Trinh made it clear for the U.S. rulers to understand what could help the talks between the DRVN and the U.S. begin if the U.S. really wanted such talks. The American ruling circles were truly at a loss as a result of this statement. While continuing their war escalation in the North as well as in the South, they had nevertheless to say something to soothe public opinion. First, in announcing their famous "San Antonio formula" (of Sep. 29, 1967). This formula, supposedly signed, said that the U.S. would end the bombing of North Viet Nam, if that was rapidly conducive to productive discussions, and "we would assume that while discussions proceed, North Viet Nam would not take advantage of the bombing cessation or limitation." It would not be difficult for a shrewd observer to find that that subtle formula implied however the condition of 'reciprocity' already sternly condemned by everybody.

Another means used by Washington to distract the world's attention from Mr. Nguyen Dai Trinh's Jan. 28,

(Continued page 2)



No enemy stronghold is immune from PLAF attacks

## 5 ENEMY COMPANIES WIPED OUT OR DECIMATED On the Saigon and Da Nang Fronts

- More than 200 South Korean casualties in a fortnight in Binh Dinh province.
- 30 vessels and cargoes sunk or burnt by the patriots between Dec. 8 and Jan. 5.
- 220 planes and helicopters shot down or damaged in 2 months on the Saigon front.

# U.S. MAINLY TO BLAME FOR CONFAE HEADLOCK

(Continued from page 1)

has the lost word in all matters concerning it and its puppet, Senators McGovern and Young were rightly termed as "pinstriped" and "tinhorn" dictators the ring-leaders of the Saigon puppet administration, thus putting them in their proper place as lackeys of the U.S., and showing the U.S. what it should do if it really wants to take part in the Paris Conference and settle peacefully the question of Viet Nam.

It is U.S. unwillingness to give up its dark design to annex South Viet Nam and turn it into a new-type colony, and its consequent intention to cling to the Saigon administration as an

instrument to this effect, that lies at the bottom of the attempt to clamourise the Saigon puppet regime. Reports from Washington, December 30 last revealed that the U.S. government would spend an additional 3.8 billion dollars for the Viet Nam war this year, and that the Saigon puppet regime in Saigon were speculating about a long-term involvement of the U.S. in Viet Nam. According to the U.S. News and World Report on December 2, 1968, 75 American officers and civilians were being trained into representatives of the U.S. government in South Viet Nam provinces. (—)

But, U.S. stubbornness will only invite on it still heavier setbacks. There can be only one path for the U.S. to an "honourable peace" and that is the U.S. aggressive war in South Viet Nam, take all the U.S. troops home, and let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs in line with the Political Programme of the NLF. Most immediately, the U.S. must stop its dilatory moves, so that the quadripartite conference in Paris can begin soon, and conditions can be set based for the peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam issue on the basis of the respect for the Vietnamese people's basic national rights. (—)

## REASONABLE PROPOSALS SYSTEMATICALLY TURNED DOWN BY USA

In the course of a meeting with Ambassador Cyrus Vance on the afternoon of January 2, 1969 to continue the discussions on procedural arrangements for the quadripartite conference, Ambassador Ha Van Lau, with the consent of the delegation to the South Viet Nam NLF, proposed the following:

1—If the U.S. accepts an unsplit round table at which each delegation may take a seat of its choice, which shape will be free from the implication of either a two-sided or a four-party concept.

2—The DRVN and the NLF will agree to the dispensing with the flag and number plate of each delegation at the table.

3—Concerning the speaking order at the first session, it is the DRVN delegation's view that all the four delegations should draw lots

as already proposed by the DRVN. However, in view of the refusal by the U.S. and Saigon administration, the DRVN suggested that its delegation speak next and let either of the other two delegations who wins take the floor first.

4—If the DRVN proposed that the four delegations meet on January 6, 1969, to initiate the talks, and that the procedural arrangements.

All these reasonable proposals were turned down by the U.S. troops home, and proposed many types of table all of which were split in two with the obvious intention to maintain the absurd "two-sided conference" with the flag and number plate of each delegation at the table.

The U.S. is thus responsible for the prolongation of the two-month deadlock of the quadripartite conference to seek a peaceful solution to the Viet Nam question.

added two more; the place should be accessible to news coverage and one where the U.S. troops and other satellites of the U.S. have their representatives. Parallel to this, Mr. Rusk undertook an escalation in the offer of places for contact; he proposed five "hot" lines, and five days later, ten others. Some of these places did not even meet the conditions raised by the U.S. troops home, for instance Kuala Lumpur or Vientiane.

One may easily understand the unanimous condemnation that befell the men in Washington.

Once again it fell to the DRVN Government to give a positive proof of its goodwill, which never lacking. On May 3, the DRVN Foreign Ministry made public a statement, the main part of which follows:

"In face of such a situation (in which the U.S. Government was using dilatory measures) the Government of the DRVN is of the view that formal talks between Hanoi and Washington should be held without delay.

The Government of the DRVN has decided to appoint Minister Xuan Tay as its representative to enter into formal talks with the U.S. Government's representative with a view to ascertaining the U.S. side the unconditional cessation of the U.S. bombing raids and all other acts of war against the DRVN, and then discussing other problems of interest to both sides.

The Government of the DRVN welcomes the French Government's willingness to let Paris serve as a meeting place for talks between the DRVN and the U.S., as stated by the French Foreign Minister, Mr. Couve de Murville on April 10, 1968. The Government of the DRVN considers that Paris, like Phnom Penh or Warsaw, is a suitable place for formal talks between the two sides. The formal talks will begin on May 10, 1968 or a few days thereafter."

(to be continued)

# THE NORTH GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

## SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT IN FOUR YEARS OF ANTI-U.S. STRUGGLE

NGUYEN VAN DAO,  
Vice-Chairman of the State Planning Commission

ten million metres of textile as gifts to be presented to the South Vietnamese people.

Regional industry has been growing at a quick pace. Many branches have even surpassed the rate of development in prime time.

In the four years from 1965 to 1968, investments in regional industry development increased fourfold compared with the period 1961-1964; more than 1,000 state-run local industry establishments and 3,600 handicraft co-operatives have been founded and put into commission. Reality has shown that it is fully possible and very practical to build war-time regional industry. Take Quang Binh for instance. Only a few years back it had virtually no industry. But in four years of war Quang Binh has not only strengthened the ties between agriculture and industry and making better use of latent local potentialities.

The fledgling industry of North Viet Nam grows by no means spared by American aircraft. Nevertheless, over the past few years, the key branches of the centrally-run industry (electricity engineering, coal extraction, etc.) have been developing or maintaining their production at a satisfactory level. In the years 1964-1967, gross output of the engineering industry grew at an annual rate of 8%, and the mining and chemical industry, 6.8%. The coal mines in Quang Ninh fulfilled their 1968 production plan 10 days ahead of schedule. Light industry branches have also made headway. In 1968 gross output value of light industry topped the plan by 10%. In particular, textile industry produced an extra

Engineering industry, in particular, has increased markedly. A network of engineering factories and shops has been established from the provincial and district levels down to the agricultural co-ops. The rapid growth of the engineering industry in war time is a very important factor making it possible for North

Viet Nam to advance vigorously and realize semi-mechanisation and mechanisation and mechanisation of production and raise quickly the level of production.

Agricultural production holds an important role in the national economy of North Viet Nam. In the past few years, surmounting multiple difficulties caused by war and an unfavourable weather, agricultural production in North Viet Nam has never stopped its steady march forward. New socialist production relations have become more and more consolidated. The material and technical bases have been continually reinforced. Agricultural production has been going forward in the direction of intensive cultivation and all-round development and has obtained encouraging results in food and foodstuffs production. For all the difficulties, the agricultural production in North Viet Nam has reached in two crops five tons or more of paddy per hectare in a 2,500 hectare area. Thanks to the improvement of the distribution system, an adequate supply of goods has been ensured for the state, the co-ops, and the people at the basic level.

The total turnover of retail trade in the North Viet Nam has increased annually by 8% during the 1964-1967 period. Right in the conditions of an intensified war, the supply of first necessities of the people in food, clothing, education and culture has been steadily improved. In spite of difficulties in transport, there has been a continual broadening of the sources of export lines and improvement of the reception and distribution of imported goods. The people's life,

in the areas most intensively raided by the enemy, remains stable, and in some areas, has even improved.

the area) the people there put under crop a larger acreage than the previous year and rice output rose 18% over the same crop in 1967. In 1968, pig livestock went up 3.4% compared with 1967. Enjoying an ever greater assistance from industry, agriculture is accumulating more experience to prepare for still more vigorous steps of development.

Finance and trade activities have also recorded many achievements in the past few years. Owing to the development of regional economy, the income of all the localities has been on the upgrade. The state budget has given priority to investments in the most important branches, especially to the expansion of regional economy.

These successes have helped strengthen the economic and defence potentials and raised the morale of the people to the fullest extent possible in the face of the enemy's aggression. Reality has created extremely favourable conditions for North Viet Nam to fulfill its economic tasks in the coming year so as to march forward together with the South Vietnamese people and defeat the U.S. aggressors. Reality has also created the soundness of our Party and State's policy of economic reorientation in war time to ensure the realization of the Vietnamese people's strategic determination which is to defeat the U.S. aggression and at the same time build socialism.

These educational achievements amply justify the erection of a victory monument in the village, ming.

A teacher showed it to me and said, "Each enemy attack gives us a lesson."

These words sound like a line of verse and has a ring of truth.

Formerly, educational work at the village was rated moderately good in the district. Since the village became a target of enemy attacks along with progress in production and the fighting, education has also improved. There are now 135 classes for more than 300 adults;

Communications and transport have been a battle front where confrontation with the enemy was the fiercest. In 1967 the U.S. heavily contributed to the destruction of communication lines in North Viet Nam compared with 1965. However, thanks to the active participation of the entire people in the maintenance of communications and transport, there has been a marked growth in the means of transport, simple and mechanized, and therefore, traffic has in the whole been past four years. Some communication and transport branches have persevered in their transport plans, effectively serving the fighting, production and the people's life.

The big and all-round successes in economic building and development in the past four years have largely contributed to the victory of historic significance of the Vietnamese people in the South Viet Nam. These successes have helped strengthen the economic and defence potentials and raised the morale of the people to the fullest extent possible in the face of the enemy's aggression. Reality has created extremely favourable conditions for North Viet Nam to fulfill its economic tasks in the coming year so as to march forward together with the South Vietnamese people and defeat the U.S. aggressors. Reality has also created the soundness of our Party and State's policy of economic reorientation in war time to ensure the realization of the Vietnamese people's strategic determination which is to defeat the U.S. aggression and at the same time build socialism.

These educational achievements amply justify the erection of a victory monument in the village, ming.

A teacher showed it to me and said, "Each enemy attack gives us a lesson."

These words sound like a line of verse and has a ring of truth.

Formerly, educational work at the village was rated moderately good in the district. Since the village became a target of enemy attacks along with progress in production and the fighting, education has also improved. There are now 135 classes for more than 300 adults;

(Continued from page 1)

## 1968, A Year of Viet Nam People's Persevering Struggles on Diplomatic Front

dispute of all such artificial quibbles. The DRVN said that talks were to start after the unconditional cessation of the bombing and all other acts of war against the DRVN. The answers given by the Foreign Ministry to an AFP correspondent on Feb. 8, 1968 provided further clarification on the subjects of eventual talks: "The relevant questions are questions related to a settlement of the Vietnam problem on the basis of the 1954 Geneva Agreements, they are also the questions which could be raised by either side".

So Washington was driven into a corner. The position of the DRVN elicited an unanimous welcome. "Never had the North Vietnamese Government publicly held out such a prospect to open eventual talks and so clearly given to understand that it subscribed to the desire that the talks be really productive", commented AFP on Feb. 9, 1968. "A Vietnam's Foreign Minister has now cleared away some of the remaining obstacles to peace talks with the U.S.", said the New York Times on Feb. 11, 1968. People from various political horizons, among others U Thant, the Governments of France, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, all stressed the necessity for the U.S. to unconditionally halt the bombing as a first step without which nothing could be started. And lastly, the blow Mr. Johnson publicly demanded that "new signs be given by Hanoi before ending the bombing. Mr. Rusk, in his usual off-hand manner, term-

ed Mr. Nguyen Dai Trinh's words "propaganda gestures". Mr. Clifford re-treated the DRVN's offer, and announced a somewhat modified form and let it be understood that in case of talks, South Vietnam would not above the normal level would be "acceptable".

Meanwhile the escalation went on in North Viet Nam and the U.S. troops arrived in the South. Unfortunately enough, things did not develop as the Americans: the 2,500 U.S. plane was downed in North Viet Nam on March 28, 1968 and the F-4 "A" ultra-modern fighter-bomber was bagged on March 28. Above all, the generalized offensives and widespread uprisings of the South Vietnamese people and armed forces in the days following TET — events which U.S. propaganda tried their best to describe as unimportant — had their impact in depth, penetrating and bruising for the strategic posture of the U.S. aggressors. On March 22, 1968, Westmoreland was sacked from his post as commander of U.S. forces in South Vietnam.

March 31, 1968 saw the first U.S. drawback of far-reaching effect: Johnson's speech on television dramatically declared that from now on the U.S. confined itself to a "limited bombing" of North Viet Nam. He added that this limited bombing would end only "if our restraint is matched by restraint in Hanoi". And lastly, Johnson declared in favour of a bombing limitation, Johnson declared, "The U.S. is ready to send its representatives to any forum at any time to discuss the means of bringing this war to an end".

In the same March 31, 1968 speech Johnson who had dismissed Westmoreland only a few days back, dismissed himself in announce-

cing his withdrawal from the presidential race.

By declaring the "bombing limitation" and by renewing their offer for talks, the American rulers thought they could return the ball to Hanoi, Great was their surprise when three days later, on April 3, 1968, they received the text of a similar statement from the DRVN Government. This statement first gave an analysis of the double standard position of the U.S. decision to "limit the bombing".

"This was an admission of failure but at the same time, a crafty trick of the U.S. Government to placate public opinion. In fact, the U.S. Government keeps sending more U.S. troops to South Viet Nam, makes every effort to strengthen the puppet army, and asks for additional appropriation to pursue its aggressive war in Viet Nam. In fact, the United States continues to bomb an important part of the territory of the DRVN. On March 17th to the 20th parallel and refuses to stop unconditionally the bombing raids and all other acts of war against the whole territory of the DRVN."

The statement went on to say:

"However, for its part, the Government of the DRVN has declared its readiness to appoint a representative to contact a U.S. representative with a view to ascertaining the U.S. side the unconditional cessation of the U.S. bombing raids and all other acts of war against the DRVN so that talks may be started quite."

The April 3, 1968 statement was closely followed, on April 8, by another statement by Mr. Nguyen Dai Trinh, in an interview granted to a CBS

correspondent. Mr. Trinh said that preliminary contacts between the DRVN and the U.S. might take place in Phnom Penh, at ambassadorial level.

As American commentators Rowland Evans and Robert Novak (USIS, April 4, 1968) remarked, not a single American expected the DRVN Government to respond so quickly and so positively to Mr. Johnson's March 31, 1968 speech.

The American rulers—to say the truth—never wanted any serious talks. They nevertheless insisted on "promised talks" believing that the Vietnamese side would find them unacceptable. But the challenge was met: official talks would take place after the complete, unconditional cessation of the bombing, but right now Hanoi was for preliminary contacts.

The ground was set under Washington's rulers' feet. What was left to them was to exert their talent in dilatory manoeuvres. At first, they turned to Phnom Penh because of "technical problems arising from the absence of a U.S. mission". After the Vietnamese side proposed Warsaw as an additional place, they put forth two "minimum standards" i.e. the contacts should take place in a neutral country where both sides maintain a mission and have adequate communications. It should however be recalled that Messrs. Johnson, Rusk and Co had who know for how many times — and even should take place in a statement of March 31, 1968 — declared that they would be ready to go anywhere at any moment, "a room and a table" for Mr. Johnson to send there his "clearest and most trusted associates". But now it was an escalation in Washington's terms. To the two above-cited conditions, Mr. Johnson soon

added two more; the place should be accessible to news coverage and one where the U.S. troops and other satellites of the U.S. have their representatives. Parallel to this, Mr. Rusk undertook an escalation in the offer of places for contact; he proposed five "hot" lines, and five days later, ten others. Some of these places did not even meet the conditions raised by the U.S. troops home, for instance Kuala Lumpur or Vientiane.

One may easily understand the unanimous condemnation that befell the men in Washington.

Once again it fell to the DRVN Government to give a positive proof of its goodwill, which never lacking. On May 3, the DRVN Foreign Ministry made public a statement, the main part of which follows:

"In face of such a situation (in which the U.S. Government was using dilatory measures) the Government of the DRVN is of the view that formal talks between Hanoi and Washington should be held without delay.

The Government of the DRVN has decided to appoint Minister Xuan Tay as its representative to enter into formal talks with the U.S. Government's representative with a view to ascertaining the U.S. side the unconditional cessation of the U.S. bombing raids and all other acts of war against the DRVN, and then discussing other problems of interest to both sides.

The Government of the DRVN welcomes the French Government's willingness to let Paris serve as a meeting place for talks between the DRVN and the U.S., as stated by the French Foreign Minister, Mr. Couve de Murville on April 10, 1968. The Government of the DRVN considers that Paris, like Phnom Penh or Warsaw, is a suitable place for formal talks between the two sides. The formal talks will begin on May 10, 1968 or a few days thereafter."

(to be continued)

## Education in the Anti-U.S. Fight

### U.S. Attacks Only Bring the People Closer Together

The first U.S. rocket fired on village Q (Thanh Hoa) killed 3 members of the family of Le Dang Su, a 7th form pupil, and Le Dang Su, a 9th form school boy. That day, both were at school when the bomb explosion was heard. They ran home only to see Le Dang Su and Le Dang Su already dead in their house. Their mother and their two younger brothers were no longer there.

In a vindictive spirit all schools in village Q simultaneously launched a campaign called "Helping friends, punishing the enemy" of Nguyen Ba Ngoc (1). "A collection of pens, writing paper, school books and clothes was launched

among village pupils. A few days later, Xu and Su, wearing mourning bands, returned to their classes.

Later on, U.S. aircraft struck at village Q again. This time a 12-year-old girl, named Xu, was killed. After the bomb explosion, Hoang rushed to the scene and saw Xu and Xu already dead. They were consciously putting out the fire to save the school.

In the third U.S. raid, Nhung, an 11-year-old girl, was killed. Nhung was a very good pupil, and she was a classmate, friend to his rescue. Seeing that his friend's leg was bleeding, Nhung immediately took off his shirt, tore it

into strips to dress the wound. Nhung was sent to hospital. Friends in his study group took turns in visiting him daily, bringing him gifts and attending to his wounds. Nhung could not be reunited with his friends, again took turn in carrying him to school pick-up.

In another attack, a U.S. bomb completely wrecked the house of Quang, a 4th form pupil, and his sister. Their house destroyed and their property completely lost, his parents, unable to support a large family by themselves, wanted him to drop out.

Teachers and villagers encouraged them to tide over their difficulties and keep him at school. They also encouraged efforts to rebuild the house. They also gave financial aid and sent him to Quang's family back to help him as before the bombing raid.

Quang was able to continue his education and, at the end of term, he was among the excellent pupils of the district selected to the provincial level of primary pupils to sit at all school exams.

These educational achievements amply justify the erection of a victory monument in the village, ming.

A teacher showed it to me and said, "Each enemy attack gives us a lesson."

many pupils of general education schools have passed examinations with excellent marks; the infant education service has won a prize from the province.

The U.S. aggressors have hit the village 12 times and have left there the carcass of the 1,000th pupil downed over North Viet Nam.

These educational achievements amply justify the erection of a victory monument in the village, ming.

A teacher showed it to me and said, "Each enemy attack gives us a lesson."





# VIET NAM AND THE WORLD

## THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE FULLY SUPPORT THE POLITICAL PROGRAMME OF THE LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT (Neo Lao Haksat)

President HO CHI MINH'S  
MESSAGE  
to Prince SOUPHANOUANG

To Prince Souphanouvong,  
Chairman of the CC of the Neo Lao Haksat.

ON behalf of the Vietnamese people, I wish to extend to Your Highness, the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat "Lao Patriotic Front" and the entire brotherly Lao people our warmest greetings on the occasion of the publication of the Front's Political Programme.

The Political Programme spells out the judicious line and the policy of broad unity of the Neo Lao Haksat as well as the iron-like determination of the Lao people to defeat the U.S. imperialist intervention and aggression in Laos. It is certain that their struggle will enjoy profound sympathy and widespread support from the peace- and justice-loving people all over the world.

The Vietnamese people fully support the Political Programme of the Neo Lao Haksat and are convinced that under the clearheaded leadership of the Neo Lao Haksat the brotherly Lao people will certainly record many still greater victories in their effort to build a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos.

May the militant solidarity between the peoples of our two countries consolidate and develop with every passing day!

I wish to convey Your Highness and the members of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat the assurances of my high consideration.

HO CHI MINH

## A Programme Full of Resolve to Defeat the U.S. Aggressors in Laos

(Excerpts from the Jan. 3, 1969 statement of the CC of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front)

OVER the past 17 years, continuing and promoting the glorious traditions of the Neo Lao Haksat, the Lao Patriotic Front (Neo Lao Haksat) headed by Prince Souphanouvong has been leading the Lao people in a resolute and extremely valiant struggle against the U.S. imperialists and their valets, frustrating all their military and political schemes and winning great victories of important strategic significance in all fields. The liberated zone of Laos which covers two-thirds of the territory with half of the population has been ever more consolidated. The united front of the Lao people against the U.S. imperialists for national salvation with as its core the solid alliance between the Lao Patriotic Front and the Patriotic Neutralist Forces has been further strengthened and broadened. The prestige of the Lao Patriotic Front keeps increasing and so does its influence, at home and abroad.

At present, to reverse the extremely critical situation in Viet Nam and to make good their increasingly heavy setbacks in Laos, the U.S. imperialists are stepping up their "special war" in Laos with intensified raids against the Lao liberated zone and persisting in their manoeuvre to prolong the war of aggression in Laos and maintain tension in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

In such a situation, on

the basis of the previous line of struggle for national salvation and national construction and in conformity with the present trend, the Political Programme of the Lao Patriotic Front has seen the light to supply guidance to the Lao people to develop their achievements so as to record still greater ones and march towards final victory.

The Political Programme of the Lao Patriotic Front has defined the sacred and most immediate task of the entire Lao people as follows: "To unite closely and step up the struggle to inflict failure on the neo-colonialist special war of the U.S. imperialists and overthrow the administration of their valets, traitors to the country, in order to build a peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos and contribute to the defence of peace in Indochina and Southeast Asia."

It has laid down major policies in all fields for the attainment of the set political objective, and to meet the aspirations of various strata of the people and preserve their legitimate interests.

It has clearly expounded the foreign policy of the Lao Patriotic Front which is to defend the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, unity and territorial integrity of Laos, respect and scrupulously implement the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos and strengthen solidarity with other Indo-

chinese peoples and friendship and solidarity with the peace- and justice-loving people and governments all over the world.

It is clear that this Political Programme embodies the correct line of the Lao Patriotic Front. It is a programme of great national union and of determination to defeat U.S. imperialism, intervention and aggression in Laos.

The Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front warmly acclaims and fully supports the Political Programme of the Lao Patriotic Front. It is firmly convinced that put into practice, this programme will instil considerable strength into the Lao people to win even greater victories in their just struggle for the building of a peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos.

The Vietnamese and Lao people are close comrades-in-arms who share well and won. The valiant, persevering and victorious struggle of the Vietnamese people, the Vietnamese people, the Vietnamese people, for national salvation, provides an extremely valuable support for the Vietnamese people. The Vietnamese people pledge themselves to stand shoulder to shoulder with the brotherly Lao and Cambodian peoples in the Indo-Chinese peoples' front and bring the struggle against the common enemy, the U.S. imperialist aggressor, to complete victory.

Week of International Solidarity with the Asian, African and Latin American People (Jan. 3-10)

## REVOLUTIONARY STORM OVER THE THREE CONTINENTS

TON QUANG PHUAT  
Chairman of the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee

THREE years ago, on Jan. 3, 1966, in the land of heroic Cuba, more than 500 delegates from 53 countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America held the First Inter-continental Solidarity Conference. This conference marked a new advance of the national liberation movement and demonstrated the solidarity and the firm will to fight to win of the peoples of the three continents, resolved to spread their revolutionary offensive against U.S. imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

In Africa, three more countries—Mauritania, Senegal and Equatorial Guinea, recovered last year their political independence. Thus 43 African countries have reconquered their nationhood to varying degrees. The other countries step up their drives for national liberation: Angola, Mozambique, (Portuguese) Guinea and Cape Verde, etc., while in Zimbabwe, South Africa and Southwest Africa armed struggles have been staged against racist rulers.

In Latin America, following the 1969 Conference for Latin American Peoples' Solidarity, the movement of national democratic revolution has made another stride forward. Besides armed struggle which is going on in Guatemala, Venezuela, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Peru and Bolivia, guerrilla activities have begun in Argentina, Puerto Rico and Brazil. The movement of workers, peasants, students, teachers and intellectuals for national liberation, under conditions, land and housing, and against reactionary education, is growing.

Clearly, during the revolutionary storm in the three continents continued to attack the imperialist and neo-imperialist forces from all sides. U.S.-head imperialism pursued its attempt to use aid to the puppet regimes to march forward and inflict complete defeat on the U.S. "special war". In Cambodia, the Khmer people have foiled the provocative schemes and acts and threats by the U.S. and its lackey, the South Vietnamese people. For their part, the patriotic forces of Thailand have expanded their armed struggle to it among the 71 provinces. The insurgents in the Philippines, Malaysia and North Kalimantan continue fighting against the puppets to safeguard and develop the national revolution. The Korean people keep up their struggle against the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique for the abolition of the "ROK-Japan Treaty" and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and peaceful unification of the country. The Japanese people are engaged in vigorous actions against the U.S. imperialists and the reactionary Government for the abrogation of the "Japan-U.S. Security Treaty" and the "Japan-ROK treaty", return of Okinawa to Japan, dismantling of the U.S. military base in Japan, peace and neutrality.

In the Middle East, the armed forces of Yemen and South Yemen, with the active co-operation of the people, have repulsed military attacks of the reactionary feudalists, henchmen of imperialism. The Arab peoples are pushing ahead their resistance against the

Israeli aggressors assisted by the U.S. and British imperialists.

In Asia, especially in South-East Asia, the revolutionary movement has been surging ahead. After three successive victorious dry seasons, the South Vietnamese people have since early Spring 1968 been mounting waves of general offensives and have won unprecedented and all-round successes, driving more than 1,000,000 U.S. troops and troops into a state of passive defence. In the North, the Vietnamese people have defeated the war of destruction of the U.S. imperialists, and forced them to completely stop the bombardment on the whole territory of the DRVN.

In neighbouring Laos, the people have been beating off the military attacks of the U.S.-fostered army. The 12-point Political Programme issued recently by the Neo Lao Haksat (Lao Patriotic Front) is strongly encouraging the Lao people to march forward and inflict complete defeat on the U.S. "special war". In Cambodia, the Khmer people have foiled the provocative schemes and acts and threats by the U.S. and its lackey, the South Vietnamese people. For their part, the patriotic forces of Thailand have expanded their armed struggle to it among the 71 provinces. The insurgents in the Philippines, Malaysia and North Kalimantan continue fighting against the puppets to safeguard and develop the national revolution. The Korean people keep up their struggle against the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique for the abolition of the "ROK-Japan Treaty" and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and peaceful unification of the country. The Japanese people are engaged in vigorous actions against the U.S. imperialists and the reactionary Government for the abrogation of the "Japan-U.S. Security Treaty" and the "Japan-ROK treaty", return of Okinawa to Japan, dismantling of the U.S. military base in Japan, peace and neutrality.

In the Middle East, the armed forces of Yemen and South Yemen, with the active co-operation of the people, have repulsed military attacks of the reactionary feudalists, henchmen of imperialism. The Arab peoples are pushing ahead their resistance against the

Israeli aggressors assisted by the U.S. and British imperialists.

We take this opportunity to reaffirm our full support to the liberation struggle of various nations. We reiterate our firm belief that the tri-continental peoples' struggle will achieve great successes. We sincerely thank them for their valuable support.

The Vietnamese people united as one man are striving

to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory. They regard this as the most effective way to observe the International Week of Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continental peoples and also a positive contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory. They regard this as the most effective way to observe the International Week of Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continental peoples and also a positive contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory. They regard this as the most effective way to observe the International Week of Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continental peoples and also a positive contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory. They regard this as the most effective way to observe the International Week of Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continental peoples and also a positive contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory. They regard this as the most effective way to observe the International Week of Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continental peoples and also a positive contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory. They regard this as the most effective way to observe the International Week of Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continental peoples and also a positive contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory. They regard this as the most effective way to observe the International Week of Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continental peoples and also a positive contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

Division near Hoa Quan, 95km north of Saigon, and 3 cargo ships on the Long Tau shipping channel; on Jan. 4 they assaulted the enemy at Hoa Quan. On Jan. 5, they raided 2 adverse positions near Xuan Loc, 62 km east-northeast of Saigon, and on Jan. 7 bombarded a U.S. artillery position, 60 km northeast of Saigon, and a submarine HQ at Tan Tra (11km south-southwest of Saigon).

In Western Nam Bo, near Rach Gia (105 km West-Southwest of Saigon) close to the gulf of Thailand, 3 vessels transporting GIs and Korean mercenaries were sunk with all their passengers on Dec. 31 on a canal as they were taking part in a sweep in the New Year truce decided by the NFL. In this province, 4 more vessels were wrecked between Dec. 21 and Dec. 25 while in the South China Sea. Southernmost part of the country 6 others were sent to the bottom and set afire

company at Go Vang as well as, on 5 occasions, the reinforcements sent in by the enemy command, and destroyed one company and decimated 2 other companies of the puppet army. Near Quang Ngai city (121km southeast of Da Nang), on Dec. 22 they intercepted a puppet battalion supported by 16 armoured cars and killed or wounded 70 enemy troops, destroyed 3 armoured cars and brought down a helicopter gunship.

Lastly, also in Central Truong Bi, in Binh Dinh province bordering Quang Ngai, they intercepted "covert pacification" operation undertaken by South Korean mercenaries in the Phan My area (10km north-northwest of Qui Nhon), the patriots put off action 216 Pak Jung Hi troops in a fortnight.

In the Western Highlands, Giat Phong Press Agency listed 4 choppers, 4 barrack-buses, 10 trucks, 10 vehicles destroyed and 60 enemy casualties, during a shelling on Dec. 21 of the Kienlum

city, 100 km south-southwest of Da Nang. On Dec. 31, punishing an enemy challenge to the New Year truce, the patriots knocked off 7 puppets and a U.S. "adviser" northwest of this city. Western news agencies' reported a heavy PLAF artillery attack on the Da Nang position to the South of the Western Highlands, 20 km northeast of Saigon, as well as a plastic charge which reduced to rubble the "Open arm" centre of Ninh Thuan province (40 km northwest of 35 km east-northwest of Saigon, on the night of Jan. 4 to Jan. 5).

Some of the most splendid exploits have been achieved by guerrillas of a village of Binh Loc province, nearly 100 km north of Saigon, from Dec. 14 to Dec. 20, who knocked down 9 choppers with infantry weapons, causing 100 casualties mostly GIs. The received 13 trucks, Military Equipment Order 1st class. Guerrillas of another village 40 km northwest of Saigon were awarded "the same decoration for having ground on Nov. 4, 1968, 3 choppers, 6 of them on the spot, killing or wounding 40 GIs.

Although interrupted by

brutal force, the demonstration staged by the Saigon students scored brilliant successes and had wide repercussions. Like a thunderbolt it hit hard at the Thieu-Ky-Hung clique's law in-10-80 and paved the way for the Saigon people to storm ahead.

Although interrupted by

## GRAND MEETING IN HANOI

A meeting was held in Hanoi under the joint auspices of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front and the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee to welcome the new Political Programme of the Neo Lao Haksat (Lao Patriotic Front) and commemorate the 13th anniversary of the founding of the Neo Lao Haksat (Jan. 6, 1956).

After the opening speech delivered by Hoang Quoc Viet, member of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee, member of the President of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, Central Committee, Ton Quang Phiet, Chairman of the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee, addressed the rally.

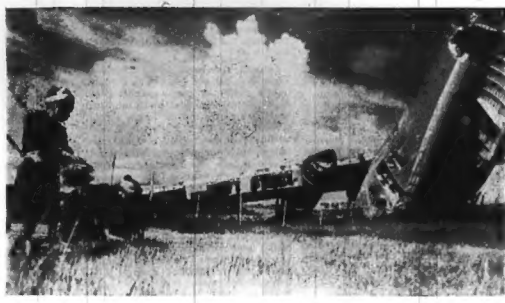
Speaking of the great successes scored by in all fields by the Lao people in their anti-U.S. aggression fight, under the leadership of the Neo Lao Haksat headed by Prince Souphanouvong, he said, "There are an important turning point in the patriotic resistance of the Lao people against U.S. aggression which has increasingly tipped the balance of forces in favour of the Lao patriotic forces, bringing the U.S. aggressor and their henchmen into confusion and further exposed their aggressive and traitorous nature."

Dealing with the momentous significance of the Political Programme, Ton Quang Phiet pointed out:

"The appearance of the Political Programme marks a new step in the development of the Lao revolution. It is the fruit of the protracted, hard and heroic struggle of the Lao people under the leadership of the Neo Lao Haksat (Front of Free Laos) in the past and the Neo Lao Haksat (Lao Patriotic Front) at present."

Ton Quang Phiet strongly condemned the U.S. imperialist's floating of the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, their sabotage of the National Committee, Ton Quang Phiet, Chairman of the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee, addressed the rally.

The audience unanimously passed a resolution warmly hailing and pledging full support for the Political Programme of the Neo Lao Haksat. It demanded that the U.S. imperialists tipped the balance of forces in favour of the Lao patriotic forces, bringing the U.S. aggressor and their henchmen into confusion and further exposed their aggressive and traitorous nature."



A rice production team of Kham Nhay village, Nienh Khauw province (Laos), growing rice on the side of a U.S. plane wreckage



Talks between the South Viet Nam NPL and the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces which resulted in the joint communiqué issued in early November 1965. Center: Luu Nghi Nguyen Huu Tin and Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao.

## ALLIANCE OF NATIONAL, DEMOCRATIC AND PEACE FORCES CALLS FOR THIEU-KY-HUONG CLIQUE'S OUSTER

**G**iai Phong Press Agency has released an appeal by the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces to the South Viet Nam townsmen. It assailed the failure of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen and exposed their stiff-necked obduracy in continuing to intensify the aggressive war, in using false methods to crack down upon everyone who resists them and in plotting to torpedo the Paris conference.

The appeal said:

"The South Vietnamese people unequivocally affirm that so long as the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique remains in power there can be no sincere desire for peace but only sabotage of peace, no true independence but only slavery, and no welfare and happiness but only poverty and death.

"Therefore, the SVN city people, like their fellow-countrymen in the rest of South Viet Nam, who eagerly desire peace, independence, freedom and the right to live, decidedly cannot let

those bloodthirsty traitors continue to live on the sweat and blood of the people...

"The Thieu-Ky-Huong bellicose clique of traitors must be overthrown!"

"A government that really wants peace and sincere talks with the National Front for Liberation with a view to an early and sensible solution to the South Viet Nam issue must be set up.

"Compatriots in South Viet Nam cities! Close in your ranks and march forward fearlessly!"

## THE SQUALL THAT HERALDS A STORM

(A report on the Christmas night, demonstration staged by Saigon students from the correspondence of Gai Phong, militant organ of the Saigon people)

**O**n Christmas night last, at about 9 p.m., thousands of student representatives gathered at a place on Huong Vuong street. With them were Catholics as well as Buddhist priests, justice-loving teachers, warm-hearted intellectuals belonging to various callings and religions. They greeted Christmas with eager aspirations for peace, songs laden with grief, and angry denunciations of the cruel American war of aggression ravaging the country. The men who "brought us elephants to trample on their ancestors' tombs," they said, were none other than the mutinous and bellicose Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, vultures of the Americans.

Long pent up anger and hatred burst forth thunderlike. When the song "I Speak the Voice of Man" ended, a student addressed the crowd. "We want peace," he cried, "but to confine ourselves to lawsuits would be to adopt a negative attitude, right now we must light torches and

take to the streets!" The unknown answer to his words was a thunderous, "To the streets!" Like a drum beating.

Their cries resounded in the nine wards of the city, and rang in the frightened ears of the American aggressors and their vultures, the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique.

In the front were placards reading:

"We oppose those who hatch the barbarous scheme of pursuing the war" (i.e. the stubborn and bellicose American aggressors and Thieu-Ky-Huong clique).

"Cut the price of rice! Better living conditions for laboring people, soldiers and civil servants!"

Pione Huong Vuong avenue, the demonstrators went to Yen Do then Ky Dong street, exhorting as they marched along on the people to rise up against the cruel American war of aggression, and to overthrow the vultures and bellicose Thieu-Ky-Huong gang.

Many passers-by and people on their way to Christmas mass joined the demonstrators and chanted "Peace!" Police and troops watched with sympathetic eyes and showed support for the protesters. In their hearts of hearts, they opposed the odious Thieu-Ky-Huong clique. They were determined not to obey the orders of the aggressors and traitors and suppress a popular movement struggling for aspirations which were also theirs.

When the demonstrators reached Truong Minh Giang street, they were stopped by thugs of the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique. Guns cracked, and the paraders kept their cool, vigorously resisted the armed ruffians, turned back arrested people, and went on with their protest. The blood-thirsty janitors, who had been killing and massacring for many years on orders from the dollar, suddenly went struck with panic in face of the

(Continued page 7)

## 19th NATIONAL STUDENT DAY (January 9, 1969)

"...Let all the youth and students of South Viet Nam dash forward courageously and, upholding their tradition of dauntless struggle, join our people in demanding withdrawal of the U.S.; dismissal of the Thieu-Ky-Huong war cabinet; formation of a peace cabinet; negotiations with the Front to restore peace to the country."

(Appeal of the South Viet Nam Liberation Students' Union and the Liberation Pupils' Union on the occasion of the 19th National Student Day).

## Students' Struggle in South Viet Nam Cities

IN SAIGON

**G**ai Phong Press Agency reported that, on Dec. 28, 1968 representatives of students and the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces addressed an appeal to the youth, students and pupils, "to be alive to their responsibility before history which is to wage a relentless struggle for the abolition of fascist militarism and all forms of oppression by the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys."

The appeal said:

"Our fellow-countrymen everywhere are proudly turning their gaze on us, a heroic young generation.

"We swear that we will live up to this strong confidence and rise up resolutely and struggle for the fulfillment of the nation's imperative aspirations, namely, independence, democracy, peace, neutrality and ultimate peaceful reunification of the country."

The appeal was signed by:

**Ho Nam Nhut**, Secretary General of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Committee of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, ex-president of the General Association of Saigon Students, President of the Saigon Movement for University Autonomy;

**Lo Quang Loc**, member of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Committee of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces and President of the Executive of the Student Union of the Saigon Faculty of Letters; and

**Tran Thien Tu**, member of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Committee of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, ex-Secretary General of the Student Representation of the Zhu Tho National Centre of Technology and ex-President of the Student Representation of the National School of Agricultural Engineers.

IN QUANG NAM

**T**he youth and pupils of Tam Ky city (Quang Nam) are stepping up their struggle against the "civil defence" organization and the so-called "pupil battalion" of the U.S. and the puppet administration. Pupils of Cao Van School are unanimous in boycotting the Pupil Battalion. They have also protested against the puppet administration's forcing them to sign a petition for the Nguyen Cao Ky delegation to the Paris conference. Pupils of Bo De School in the same city have walked out of classes run by some reactionary American teachers.

## Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee Set Up in BINH DINH

**A**FTER revolutionary power had been established in the liberated villages and districts, Binh Dinh province recently held a people's Congress to elect its own ruling body.

The meeting elected a 6-man People's Revolutionary

Committee with Nguyen Trung Tin as its chairman and a woman and a representative of minority peoples among its members. The committee shortly afterward convened its first session, to review its overall situation of the province and work out a programme of action.